

# SCHMIDT, ON TRIAL, BREAKS DOWN IN HIS CELL

## Salesman Says He Saw Jessie McCann in Buffalo

### DETECTIVES DENY STORY OF ROBERT McCANN AS TO WHEREABOUTS OF SISTER

#### Inspector Faurot Declares Police Have No Clues, Though Brother Says They Told Him They Would Find Her Soon.

Second only to the continued absence of pretty Jessie Evelyn McCann, the Flatbush girl who has been missing for fourteen days, the attitude of the girl's family and friends has taken the place of interest in the minds of the detectives, who have exhausted every clue in an effort to find the young church and social worker.

That whatever of mystery there has appeared to be in her disappearance is largely of their own making is an idea which the statement attributed to Robert McCann, the girl's father, last night and a statement by young Robert McCann, her elder brother, to-day, are causing to take concrete shape in the minds of the police.

The father was quoted as declaring "there is no mystery in Jessie's absence," and to-day the son told exactly how Inspector Faurot had telephoned him of a new theory and discovery which, the inspector expected, would result in Miss McCann's discovery within "two hours, possibly, or, at the most, within forty-eight." Inspector Faurot declared, when he was told of this, that he had not seen or communicated with young McCann in three days, and no new theory and felt himself no nearer finding the girl than when he started the search.

#### MAN DECLARES HE SAW THE GIRL IN BUFFALO.

Each day brings additional reports from persons all over the country who think they have seen Miss McCann, but the police have little faith in such reports. M. J. Wilson, a salesman, visited Headquarters and said he was sure he had seen and talked with Miss McCann in Buffalo on Sunday last. He said the girl had approached him on the New York Central Railroad platform and had exclaimed, clearly mistaking him for some one else:

"Why, how are you? I haven't seen you for ages, and I certainly never expected to see you in Buffalo."

Wilson said he explained her mistake to the girl and the explanation led to an acquaintance. They spent the rest of the afternoon together until the girl left for Rochester on the 3 o'clock train. She said she was going from there to visit a woman in Nevada, N. Y.

Wilson said the girl told him her name was McCann, but he had not been reading the newspapers and gave the name no second thought until the following day when he chanced on an account of Miss McCann's absence and a picture of her. Then he was struck by the resemblance. His description of the girl, however, was widely at variance with the description of Miss McCann.

#### CHICAGO PEOPLE ALSO THINK THEY HAVE SEEN HER.

The girl was also reported in Chicago, where Mrs. Mary Fisher of No. 1811 South Wabash avenue, and Dr. O. A. Remington of No. 128 South Wabash avenue, told the police they were certain they had seen her.

#### BURNED TO DEATH UNDER BLAZING AUTO.

Son of Ex-Railroad Commissioner Found in Wreckage of Machine Near Binghamton.

BINGHAMTON, N. Y., Dec. 17.—George H. Baker, son of former Railroad Commissioner Frank M. Baker of Owego, was found burned to death beneath the charred frame of his automobile on the road between this city and Owego early to-day. He had been visiting his sister-in-law in this city and left for Owego alone in the car. Tracks showed the auto had run for eighty feet along an embankment before taking a sharp turn and plunging. It is supposed that an explosion of gasoline set fire to the auto, underneath which Baker was pinned.

His body was removed to Owego, where his father is prostrated. Baker was prominent in business and fraternal circles throughout the southern tier.

### DELAWARE TOWS CRIPPLED WARSHIP VERMONT AT SEA

Navy Department Sends Sonoma Out to Help Bring Vessel In.

#### MET SECOND ACCIDENT.

Forced to Stop Engines and Ask Sister Ship to Pass a Line.

Wireless messages received to-day at Sandy Hook from the battleship Vermont, which was disabled at sea last week when she broke a propeller shaft, say that on the morning of Dec. 14 she was forced again to reduce speed because of additional trouble.

Some of the holding rivets of the port truss bearings were carried away, the message stated, and on the following day she was forced to stop and request aid from the battleship Delaware, which had been detailed to convoy the disabled vessel to Norfolk, Va. The Delaware took the Vermont in tow and is proceeding at a three-knot speed.

#### NAVY DEPARTMENT ORDERS SONOMA TO GO TO AID.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Secretary of the Navy Daniels today ordered the Sonoma to proceed at high speed to assist the battleship Delaware in towing the Vermont to Hampton Roads, the injuries sustained by that ship having proved extremely serious, according to a garbled cipher message received to-day.

The Vermont is now said to be completely disabled about 50 miles from Cape Henry. Immediately after the Vermont cracked her port crank shaft she was able to navigate alone. Yesterday the Delaware took her in tow.

#### FOR THIEF \$10,000; GO-RESPONDENT \$25,000

Woman in Slander Suit Sets Money Value on Different Terms Used.

Blanche B. Freeman named as co-respondent in a divorce suit brought by Mrs. Mary G. Berry against Charles S. Berry, head of a detective agency, who lives at the Ansonia Hotel, to-day added \$25,000 to a slander suit which she originally sued for \$5,000 and to-day's addition made the total \$30,000.

#### CURRENCY VOTE FRIDAY.

Democratic and Republican Leaders Make Agreement on Bill.

### Girl Who Was Married at 15 and Asks Court to Free Her



MRS. FLORENCE SQUIRES

#### BRIDE WHEN ONLY 15, SHOW GIRL IS TIRED OF DANCER HUBBY

Tells Court Alderman Married Her and Aunt Stood Up for Her.

"I don't know why I married him. I just did it and that's all. It's fashionable to marry on short notice in the show business."

That is what winsome Mrs. Florence Squires, a seventeen-year-old bride, told Supreme Court Justice Hegarty to-day in explanation of how she came to marry John Squires. He was a dancer in Broadway show and she was his partner and he, so she explained, danced his way into her heart. Though she was only fifteen years old at the time, she readily consented to marry him. Now she wants it annulled.

"I am superstitious like the rest of the people in the show business," she explained, "and I guess it was because we married on Jan. 13, that our marriage never amounted to much."

"Who married you?" inquired the justice.

"We went to an alderman who lived next door to us in Brooklyn, and my aunt, Mrs. Gentles, stood up with us," she replied.

"I told you tell the alderman your age?"

"Yes, I said I was fifteen, but that didn't make any difference. You see he was a friend of the family," she went on.

"You mean to tell me an alderman married you after you had told him you were only fifteen?" asked the justice.

"What is his name?"

"I don't remember."

Here the justice adjourned the hearing. "In an annulment proceeding like this, with a rather unusual feature," said Justice Hegarty, "where the aunt of the young woman stood up with her at the ceremony, I would like to know what the law has to say about whether an adult, not associated guardian of the minor, could, by standing up, infer that she consented to the marriage."

Attorney William G. Saengericht, who appeared for Mrs. Squires, said he would present a brief on the question to-morrow.

No Extra Charge for It.

Advertisements for The World may be left at any American News Company office in the city until 5 P. M.

### CROWDED VESSEL IS HIT IN SOUND BY BIG SCHOONER

Four-Master Mattie Bassett Rips Off Upper Works of Tennessee—see Off Execution Light.

#### 150 PERSONS IN PANIC.

Battleship Sailors Put Down Excitement and Aid Vessel's Officers in Navigating.

The Sound steamer Tennessee of the Bay State Transportation Company came back to her dock, Pier 18, East River, this morning, with a big hole in her port side, her pilot house wrecked from its place and the rail on her promenade deck torn loose from bow to midships. Her 120 passengers were angry because of their interrupted trip to New England.

At 1 o'clock last night the Tennessee left Pier 18 for Providence, with 90 passengers and a cargo of freight. She had proceeded as far as Execution Rock Light in the Sound and was going along in a line of four boats. The Princeton was in the lead, a Colonial Line boat next and the Tennessee last.

Eventually the Princeton and the Colonial Line boat drew ahead, but they were still near enough to obstruct the Tennessee steamer's view of the four masted schooner Mattie Bassett on her port bow, on the starboard tack, making for Hempstead Harbor and anchorage.

The schooner had the right of way, though General Manager Noble, who was a passenger on the Tennessee, says she was not showing her sailing lights.

Before the steamer could get out of the way the Mattie Bassett struck the Tennessee a glancing blow which put her out of commission.

#### SCHOONER'S BOWSPRIT TEARS INTO VESSEL'S CABINE.

The schooner's flying jibboom crashed through the Tennessee's pilot house, was torn off and remained fast in the house. The pilot house was torn loose from the deck and the bowsprit of the schooner tore through into the captain's quarters, back of the pilot house, invaded six staterooms on the port side and ripped up the rail as far back as midships. The stanchions were torn loose and the davits twisted out of shape.

Capt. George B. Knopf of the Tennessee had just gone below to the dining saloon, leaving the wheel in charge of Pilot Brown and a quartermaster. They had to leave the pilot house and join the group of excited passengers on the deck.

Twenty-four passengers from the battleship dock just back from the Mediterranean, were on the Tennessee on their way to spend Christmas in their New England homes. They went to the aid of the officers and helped mightily in quelling the excitement. Several women passengers became hysterical.

Finding that the boat did not answer her helm, the skipper blew his whistle for help and the tug Norwalk came up and took the disabled ship in tow. With this help she reached Pier 18 at 3 o'clock this morning. General Manager Noble said it would require nearly a week to repair the damages to the Tennessee.

Most of her passengers were set ashore if they desired. Some of them stayed aboard. Those who desire will be transferred to the Georgia, which leaves for Providence this evening.

The Tennessee is 356 feet long and 32 feet beam. She displaces 1,500 tons. The Tennessee was to-day conveyed by tugs to the drydocks of Tietgen & Lane, in Hoboken. It was said that it will require three days to repair the Tennessee.

General Manager Noble to-day emphatically denied that the Tennessee was racing up the Sound.

"The statement that we were racing with ships of rival companies is absolutely false," he said. "There were four steamships in a line. The Hartford of the Hartford line, which is one of our ships, was in the lead. Then came the Princeton of the Fall River Line, and the Tennessee was next. One minute behind us was the North Star, a big ship of the Eastern Steamship Corporation, bound for Portland, Me.

"The Tennessee has a speed of 12 knots, but at the time the schooner crashed into us we were travelling at only 12-1/2 knots an hour."

### SCHMIDT IN HOSPITAL; COLLAPSES IN TOMBS, RAVES AT KEEPERS

Slayer of Aumuller Woman, After Distressing Scene in Court, Is Too Ill to See Any One.

#### BOTH SIDES CONFER; COMPROMISE IS UNLIKELY

State's Questions To-Day Show Increasing Leaning to Defense's Contention of Insanity.

Hans Schmidt, confessed slayer of Anna Aumuller, broke down completely in his cell in the Tombs to-day after he was taken there following the adjournment of his trial before Judge Warren W. Foster at a little after 1 o'clock. The trial was ostensibly adjourned to allow lawyers to eliminate a number of affidavits taken in Germany with reference to his past life.

#### EX-CONGRESSMAN IN JAIL FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT

Harry A. Hanbury Refuses to Answer Questions in Brooklyn Court and Is Sentenced.

Ex-Congressman Harry A. Hanbury, known as "Fighting Harry," and who was once a Shipping Commissioner, was sent to Rensselaer Street Jail to-day for thirty days and sentenced to pay a fine of \$50 after Judge Benedict, in the Brooklyn Supreme Court, found him guilty of contempt of court.

Hanbury, who lives at Forty-seventh street and Sixth avenue, South Brooklyn, refused to answer more than a handful of questions volleyed at him by Charles L. Craig, attorney for J. Benedict Roache, who is assignee of the Sage Foundation Fund. The proceedings were brought to discover what has become of \$64,000, part of the wealth of the late Patrick H. Flynn, the politician and contractor of Brooklyn, against whose estate the Sage Foundation has a claim.

Justice Benedict announced that if he did not answer he would be held in contempt, but Hanbury maintained a stubborn silence. Then came the sentence, which he took calmly. His attorney, George W. Hicks, says that he will appeal.

#### THREE LAWYERS HIRED BY JAILED BEGGAR

Blind Mendicant, Who Has Property in This City, Wins His Freedom in Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 17.—A blind beggar, known as Bernstein and also as Berkowitz, of New York, arrested here several days ago in a crusade against street mendicants, had the assistance of three lawyers to-day in securing his release from custody. He was arrested on a charge of vagrancy while begging with his wife, the police alleging that he was a man of means. The man engaged two Philadelphia lawyers and communicated with his New York attorney. His New York representative wrote to the Police Magistrate here that his client's \$300 estate in that city is tied up in litigation.

The Magistrate was in a quandary what to do with the man. He said he could not send the prisoner to the House of Correction because of his affliction, as inmates of that institution under the law are required to work; and he could not send him to the almshouse because he was possessed of means and was not an object of charity. The Magistrate finally decided to release him on the word of the lawyers that he would stay off the streets.

THE TRIAL WAS ADJOURNED BY CONSENT of counsel on both sides until 10:30 o'clock to-morrow, but after the breakdown of Schmidt in his cell doubt was expressed as to whether he would be able to appear to-morrow.

Assistant District-Attorney Delehanty, when questioned about the rumored compromise on the plea of insanity, strenuously denied any such possibility.

"The State will continue to ask for a verdict of murder in the first degree," Mr. Delehanty late this afternoon. We believe that the insanity is a frame-up, and shall go on the presumption that Schmidt was sane at the time of the murder and is sane now."

"He told me one day that he had seen the head of the Savonarola," said Mrs. Schladler, "on an altar set in blood and that it was the most beautiful he had ever seen."

Hans Schmidt was often punished as a boy, his sister said, because he hung